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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2013-61

Imidacloprid

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on various fruits, vegetables, legumes, tree nuts, peanuts, herbs and hops to the product label of Admire 240 Flowable Systemic Insecticide, containing technical grade imidacloprid, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Admire 240 Flowable Systemic Insecticide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 24094.

The evaluation of this imidacloprid application indicated the end-use product has merit and value, and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

In addition, the PMRA is proposing to establish import MRLs for imidacloprid on avocado, black sapote, canistel, mamey sapote, mangoes papaya, sapodilla, star apple, sugar beet roots, and sugar beet molasses to permit the import and sale of food containing these residues. The PMRA has determined the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the imported commodities when imidacloprid is used according to label directions in the exporting country, and that such residues will not be a concern to human health.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for imidacloprid is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs, to replace or be added to those MRLs already legally established for imidacloprid, are as follows.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2008-3594.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Imidacloprid

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Imidacloprid	(2*E*)-1-[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-*N*-nitro-2-imidazolidinimine, including metabolites containing the 6-chloropyridinyl moiety [Note that the residue definition above is proposed to replace the current residue definition]	14	Herbs (Crop Subgroup 19A), fresh and dried
		6.0	Hops (dried)
		4.0	Leaves of root and tuber vegetables (Crop Group 2), legume vegetables, succulent or dried (Crop Group 6; except dry soybeans)
		3.5	Bushberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07B)[1], leafy greens (Crop Subgroup 4A)[2]
		3.0	Stone fruits (Crop Group 12-09)[3]
		2.5	Globe artichokes
		1.5	Small fruit vine climbing subgroup, except fuzzy kiwifruit and gooseberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07F)[4]
		1.0	Avocadoes, black sapote, canistel, fruiting vegetables (Crop Group 8-09)[5], mamey sapote, mangoes[6], papaya, sapodilla, sapote, star apples
		0.6	Pome fruits (Crop Group 11-09)[7]
		0.5	Low growing berry subgroup, except cranberries, lingonberries and lowbush blueberries (13-07G)
		0.45	Peanuts
		0.4	Root and tuber vegetables, (Crop Group 1; except sugar beet roots)[8]
		0.3	Sugar beet molasses
		0.05	Cranberries, sugar beet roots, tree nuts (Crop Group 14-11)[9]

1 Existing MRL of 1 ppm for blueberries and 0.1 ppm for juneberrries (Saskatoon berries) are replaced with crop group MRL of 3.5 ppm.

2 Existing MRL of 3.5 ppm on lettuce is proposed for extension to the remaining subgroup commodities.

3 Existing MRL of 1.1 ppm for peaches and nectarines replaced with crop group MRL of 3 ppm.

4 Existing MRL of 1.5 ppm on grapes is proposed for extension to the remaining subgroup commodities.

5 Existing MRLs of 0.08 ppm on eggplants, and 1 ppm on peppers and tomatoes are replaced with crop group MRL of 1 ppm.

6 Existing MRL of 0.2 ppm on mangoes is replaced with an MRL of 1 ppm.

7 Existing MRLs of 0.5 ppm on apples and 0.6 ppm on pears are replaced with crop group MRL of 0.6 ppm.

8 Existing MRLs of 0.3 ppm on potatoes, sweet potatoes, and 0.05 ppm on ginseng roots are replaced with crop group MRL of 0.4 ppm.

9 Existing MRL of 0.05 ppm on pecans is replaced by crop group MRL of 0.05 ppm.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for imidacloprid in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs.[2]

American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

[2] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances, and Codex MRLs

Food Commodity	Proposed Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerances (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Herbs (Crop Group 19A) – fresh and dried	14	8 (fresh) 48 (dried)	None
Hops (dried)	6.0	6	10
Leaves of Root and Tuber Vegetables (Crop Group 2) Radish leaves (including radish tops)	4.0	4	None 5
Legume vegetables, succulent or dried (Crop Group 6; except dry soybeans) Beans, except broad bean and soya bean; peas (dry); peas, shelled (succulent seeds) Peas (pods and succulent, immature seeds)	4.0	4	None 2 5
Leafy Greens (Crop Subgroup 4A) Head lettuce	3.5	3.5	None 2
Bushberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07B) blueberries, elderberries, gooseberries, Saskatoon berries (juneberries), lingoberries, salal	3.5	3.5 (on listed commodities, not the subgroup)	5
Stone fruits (Crop Group 12-09) Cherries Peaches Nectarines Apricots Plums (including prunes)	3.0	3	None 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.2
Globe artichokes	2.5	2.5	None
Small fruit vine climbing subgroup, except fuzzy kiwifruit and gooseberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07F) Grape, juice Grape, raisin	1.5	1 (grapes only) 1.5 1.5	1 (grapes only)
Avocadoes, papayas, star apples, black sapote, mango, sapodilla, canistel, mamey sapote	1.0	1	0.2 (mangoes only)

Food Commodity	Proposed Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerances (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Fruiting vegetables Tomatoes Eggplants Peppers Peppers, chilli (dry)	1.0 (Crop Group 8-09)	1 (Crop Group 8)	None 0.5 0.2 1 10
Pome fruits (Crop Group 11-09) Apples Pears	0.6	0.6	None 0.5 1
Low growing berry subgroup, except cranberries, lingonberries and lowbush blueberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07G)	0.5	0.5 (strawberries only)	0.5 (strawberries only)
Peanuts	0.45	0.45	1
Root and Tuber Vegetables, (Crop Group 1; except sugar beet roots)	0.4	0.4	0.5 (Root and Tuber Vegetables)
Sugar beet roots Sugar beet molasses	0.05 0.3	0.05 0.3	None None
Tree nuts	0.05 (Crop Group 14-11)	0.05 (CG-14)	0.01
Pistachios		0.05	

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for imidacloprid up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.